pleased to state:

(a) whether the container traffic at Kandla Port in Gujarat in Free Trade Zone Area could not be developed as anticipated for want of proper bridges and support of Inner and Outer Roads;

(b) what are the steps|measures taken or to be taken for the development of container traffic from Kandla Free Trade Zone Port during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(c) what are the funds allocated by Planning Commission, during the Eighth Five Year Plan, project-wise; and

(d) the details of other steps| measures taken for speedy development of transport system of Kandla Free Trade Zone Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (d) No Sir. The Container traffic at Kandla Port has not been affected due to want of proper bridges and support of inner and outer roads inside or outside the Port or Free Trade Zone Area.

(b) and (c) A scheme has been included to develop container handling facilities at Kandla Port in the 8th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 10 Crores.

Recommencing the Operation of Port at Dabhol

2979. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to recommence into operation the Port at Dabhol; and

(b) if so, what are the details of such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) At present cargo traffic by sailing vessels such as Mangalore Tiles, Wood, Salt, etc. and Inland Creek Passengers is being handled at Dabhol Port. Now some of the entreprenuers have shown interest to set up their projects at Dabhol Port. The projects are as follows:—

(1) M|s. Dabhol Power Company Power Project (Enron & Maharashtra State Electricity Board).

(2) M|S. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. The Inland Water Transport Commissioner has given No Objection Certificate to M|s. Dabhol Power Company to construct a jetty at Dabhol Port on 11-1-1994. The Inland Water Transport Commissioner has also given permission to M|S. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. to survey the area for the purpose of setting up a Project. There is also a proposal from M|S. B. Steen Christensen Company of Denmark and Confidence Shipping Company for Port Management.

Appointment of a Consultant firm for Setting up mechanised Coal-Handling Plants

2980. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allot an Indo-Australian Jt. Venture firm the consultancy in the Asian Development Bank project for setting up a mechanised coal-handling plant;

(b) if so, whether ADB had agreed to provide a loan of Rs. 404 crores for the Rs. 587 crores project at Paradeep Port and had earmarked Rs. 17 for appointment of consultant;

(c) if so, what is the difference of opinion felt by the Ministry in this regard;